

meetings as one of the groups of public officials in the "League of California Cities," or through sessions of lesser attendance, as expressed in the Northern and Southern California Health Officer Associations.

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Actions of the American Public Health Association May Result in Good.—If the recent action taken by the Governing Council of the American Public Health Association will bring home, to the national and constituent state medical associations a realization of the implications involved, when an organization representing a vitally important group of physicians in public health practice is permitted to be infiltrated and practically controlled by outside lay groups, the bitter understanding of what took place may lead to better orientation of the principles and issues at stake, and thus make for decisions to bring such set-ups and proceedings to an end. In other words, the medical profession must move in, and again take possession of its own. If not, then Doctors of Medicine will have only themselves to blame, and must be reconciled to accept the consequences of their own ineptness and inaction.

EDWARD M. PALLETTE

End of a Notable Career.—In the southern section of California, over a long period of years, few members of the profession have exercised greater influence than the late Doctor Edward M. Pallette, whose death occurred in Chicago, on November 16th. An obituary appears in the current issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, on page 317.

Doctor Pallette, an ex-president of the Los Angeles County and California Medical Associations had gone to Chicago to attend a meeting of the Trustees of the American Medical Association to which body he was elected in 1942. He attended meetings of the Trustees on Wednesday, November 15th, but during the night, presumably suffering distress, he had arisen to sit and read, and in the chair in his room at the Palmer House, he was found dead, on the morning of Thursday, November 16th.

Of Doctor Pallette it may be said that in the many professional and civic positions he held, and in his work as physician and surgeon, he always gave of himself in generous, conscientious and efficient service.

Since the beginning of World War II, it was his responsibility to act as the chairman of Procurement and Assignment Service for the southern section of California. In the absence of his son, Lt. Col. Edward C. Pallette (M.C.), Army Air Corps (who had been his office associate), he was at the same time carrying on a large medical practice. The arduous work required in the Procurement and Assignment Service was an additional, and responsible load which, however, in spite of its heavy demands on his strength and health, he willingly accepted as a duty to our

Country. His passing takes from the ranks of the medical profession a colleague whose wise counsels will be sorely missed.

C.P.S.: ON PROCEDURES REGARDING CHANGES

California Physicians' Service Now in Its Sixth Year of Service.—California Physicians' Service, the statewide medical service plan inaugurated by and an integral part of the California Medical Association, from the time of its organization some six years ago, has been given a considerable amount of space in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. As one of C.M.A.'s major activities, an effort has been made in the OFFICIAL JOURNAL to keep members of the California Medical Association fully acquainted through minutes of the House of Delegates and Council, and through progress and other reports, with the organization and other developments of California Physicians' Service.

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C.M.A. House of Delegates as Administrative Members of C.P.S.—Certainly, when at the annual session held in May of the present year, the House of Delegates recessed, then to be called to order, not as the House of Delegates but as Administrative Members of California Physicians' Service, to hear reports, discussions, and elect trustees of C.P.S., it once again, became plainly evident, that California Medical Association was determined to accept full responsibility for California Physicians' Service, be that for better or for worse. In making the important change in administrative procedure, it was hoped the component county medical societies would appreciate their more direct responsibilities to C.P.S., and their right and obligation to instruct their delegates to express at meetings of the House of Delegates and through communications to the Council, their respective reactions and wishes concerning C.P.S. policies and procedures.

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Basic Changes in Procedure Need Study and Must be Legally Sound.—As has been repeatedly stated in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, California Physicians' Service was obliged to find its paths of procedure through the hard way,—by trial and error,—since there were no actuarial backgrounds for a service organization of such statewide scope. Officers of California Physicians' Service and members of California Medical Association alike agree that errors have been made. On the other hand, it should be remembered efforts have been constantly exerted to correct mistakes, and as promptly as possible.

A corporation, however,—and C.P.S. is a non-profit corporation—must act in harmony with the corporate laws of the State and the enabling legislation that applies to a nonprofit medical service corporation. Changes in basic policies and procedures cannot be made over-night nor with undue haste. Since California Medical Association holds an annual meeting, with members of its